

Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OES-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/033 W

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P R 120932Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7325
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
CINCPAC
HICOMTERPACIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 10125

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY, UR, US, RP
SUBJECT: RESEARCH VESSEL MENDELEYEV

REFS: (A) STATE 166937, (B) SINGAPORE 3253

1. GOP IS REFUSING PERMISSION FOR MENDELEYEV TO ENTER MANILA HARBOR TO PICK UP AND DISCHARGE SCIENTISTS. SHI IS PRESENTLY 40 MILES FROM MANILA. SEVERAL SCIENTISTS (3 AMERICANS, DOCOTOR FISHER OF SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCENOGRAPHY, DR. BROWN AND GRADUATE STUDENT, 1 BRIT, 2 FRENCH, 2 ITALIANS AND 1 COLUMBIAN) ARE IN MANILA WAITING WORD ON WHETHER AND HOW THEY CAN JOIN SHIP WHICH CLAIMS IT REQUIRES 200 TONS OF FRESH WATER. FRENCH EMBASSY IS SENDING NOTE TO DFA ASKING WHY FRENCH SCIENTISTS CAN'T JOIN SHIP. UNDP RESIDENT REP. BERGSTROM, WHO HAS BEEN APPRISED OF SITUATION, IS ALSO APPROACHING GOP SINCE SHIP APPARENTLY CONDUCTING RESEARCH UNDER UNDESCO AEGIS. FIL SOV REP HAS BEEN ACTIVELY TRYING TO GET GOP TO ALLOW SHIP TO DOCK BUT SO FAR TO NO AVAIL. SOMEWAHT DESPARTELY, HE ASKED WHETEHER US COULD PROVIDE HELICOPTER TO TRANSPORT SCIENTISTS TO VESSEL. EMBOFF DID NOT RESPOND. FYI IF GOP PERMITTED THIS, COMMERCIAL HELICOPTERS READILY

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AVAILABLE. END FYI.

2. COMMENT: GOP REFUSAL TO ALLOW SOVIET SHIP TO DOCK
DESPITE RECENT "NORMALIZATION" INDICATES
EXTREME SENSITIVITY WITHIN GOP (ESPECIALLY MILITARY AND
INTELLIGENCE ESTABLISHMENTS) TO SOVIET ACTIVITIES AND
ALSO DISINCLINATION TO SET PRECEDENT BY GRANTING LAST
MINUTE CLEARANCE DESPITE INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR
OF ACTIVITY. DOCTOR FISHER HAS NOT ASKED EMBASSY FOR
SPCIAL ASSISTANCE. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, WE
PROPOSE LET FRENCH AND UNDP TAKE LEAD ON
SCIENTISTS' ACCESS TO RESEARCH VESSEL.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Film Number: D760267-0880
From: MANILA
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